

STOP THE INVASION- REPORT THIS PEST

Kahili Ginger

Maui County Priority Pest for Molokai:

Kahili ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum*) is an attractive ornamental plant that has escaped the garden and is growing out of control on Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii. It can be prevented from invading Molokai. This ginger forms dense colonies in wet areas from sea level to 1,700 m (5,500 ft). It is spread by bird dispersed seeds and broken pieces of root or leaf.

Identification

Height- 0.9-2.1 m (3-7 ft) tall

Flower- grow in a stalk 16-30 cm (6-12 in) long; strongly fragrant yellow flowers with red stamen

Fruit- bright red, orange within

Leaves- lance-shaped leaves 20-45 cm (8-12 in) long and 10-15 cm (4-6 in) wide; arranged in 2 rows along the length of the stem



Kahili ginger flower stalks



Bright red fruits



Growth form in the wild,
Makawao Forest Reserve, Maui

Don't mistake kahili ginger for these look-alikes:



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Yellow ginger (*Hedychium flavescens*)

White ginger (*Hedychium coronarium*)

Yellow ginger (*Hedychium flavescens*):

White and yellow ginger are common garden plants that are also found growing in the wild in Maui County. The flowers of white and yellow ginger are white and the flowerheads are much smaller than in kahili ginger.